

O 031143Z JUN 89  
FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 0043  
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY  
AMCONSUL HONG KONG IMMEDIATE  
AIT TAIPEI IMMEDIATE  
USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE  
AMCONSUL GUANGZHOU IMMEDIATE  
AMCONSUL SHANGHAI IMMEDIATE  
AMCONSUL SHENYANG IMMEDIATE  
DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
AMCONSUL CHENGDU POUCH)

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIJING 15390

NIACT IMMEDIATE FOR CHINA WATCH

NSC FOR DOUG PAAL

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR  
TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PHUM](#) [SOCI](#) [CH](#)  
SUBJECT: SITREP NO. 28: TEN TO FIFTEEN THOUSAND  
ARMED TROOPS STOPPED AT CITY PERIMETER BY HUMAN AND  
BUS BARRICADES

REF: BEIJING 15383

11. CONFIDENTIAL ENTIRE TEXT.

12. TEN TO FIFTEEN THOUSAND HELMETED, ARMED TROOPS  
MOVED TOWARD BEIJING DURING THE LATE AFTERNOON/EARLY  
EVENING HOURS OF JUNE 3. AS OF 1930, LARGE CONVOYS  
HAVE BEEN STOPPED AS BEFORE BY BUS AND HUMAN  
BARRICADES. THE LARGEST CONCENTRATION OF TROOP  
TRUCKS IS ON THE WESTERN SIDE OF THE CITY IN FRONT  
OF THE NEW WORLD TRADE CENTER, ABOUT 5-6 KILOMETERS  
FROM TIANANMEN SQUARE. EMBOFFS SAW AT LEAST TWENTY  
TRUCKS THERE, BUT MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED HAD BEEN  
SEEN HEADING TOWARD THE CITY ON THAT ROUTE, SO WE  
ESTIMATE THAT THERE ARE ONE HUNDRED PLUS TROOP  
TRUCKS AT THAT LOCATION. THE TROOPS ARE HELMETED  
AND ARE CARRYING AUTOMATIC WEAPONS. MOST OF THEM  
SEEM TO BE STAYING IN THEIR TRUCKS FOR THE TIME  
BEING. MORE THAN 35 TRUCKS FILLED WITH HELMETED,  
ARMED TROOPS ARE STOPPED AT THE SECOND RING ROAD  
OVERPASS, DIRECTLY IN FRONT OF THE JIANGUOMENWAI  
DIPLOMATIC HOUSING COMPOUND. THERE ARE REPORTEDLY  
82 TRUCKS BLOCKED BY FOUR LARGE DUMP TRUCKS ALONG  
THE ROAD TO CAPITAL AIRPORT. WE ALSO HAVE REPORTS  
OF TWENTY SIX TRUCKS STOPPED AND SURROUNDED BY CITY  
RESIDENTS BETWEEN THE LIDO HOTEL AND THE GREAT WALL  
HOTEL IN THE NORTHEASTERN SUBURBS. THERE ARE ABOUT  
TWO THOUSAND TROOPS JUST WEST OF THE GREAT HALL OF  
THE PEOPLE IN A STANDOFF WITH CITY RESIDENTS WHICH  
HAS BEEN GOING ON SINCE EARLY AFTERNOON. THE  
POPULATION APPEARS HOSTILE TO PLA MOVEMENTS INTO THE  
CITY.

13. ELITE AIRBORNE TROOPS ARE MOVING FROM THE SOUTH  
AND TANK UNITS HAVE BEEN ALERTED TO MOVE. DAO  
OFFICERS ARE OUT CHECKING THE WESTERN SUBURBS. DAO  
IS REPORTING FURTHER DETAILS TO WASHINGTON. ALL  
EMBASSY INFORMATION SO FAR SUGGESTS THAT THE UNITS  
OTHER THAN THE AIRBORNE TROOPS ARE FROM THE 39TH  
ARMY.

14. THE TROOPS HAVE OBVIOUSLY NOT YET BEEN GIVEN  
ORDERS PERMITTING THEM TO USE FORCE. THEIR LARGE  
NUMBERS, THE FACT THAT THEY ARE HELMETED, AND THE  
AUTOMATIC WEAPONS THEY ARE CARRYING SUGGEST THAT THE  
FORCE OPTION IS REAL.

LILLEY